Flight operations for key tourism destination

2372. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether her Ministry has approached various airlines to operate flights to some key tourism destination in various States;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and the reaction thereto; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (c) The Department of Tourism approaches the Ministry of Civil Aviation and airlines from time to time with proposals regarding operation of flights to key tourism destinations in India in order to promote tourism. These requests are sent based on inter-se priorities, demands and the need to promote a particular destination vis-a-vis the target group.

Incredible India campaign

2373. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Rajasthan has good potential for tourism, but it lacks infrastructure;

(b) whether the Central Government has undertaken any survey in the above context;

(c) if so, the details of the help and special aid that has been rendered by the Central Government to impove its infrastructure;

(d) what is the action Plan of the Centre under 'incredible India' campaign to help the State to develop its tourism industry;

(e) whether Government have sanctioned projects to showcase rural life, art, culture, and herigate in Rajesthan; and

(f) if so, destinations of the sanctioned projects and grants allotted, projects-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government has prepared 20 Year Perspective Plans for the States/ UTs with the broad objectives of:

(i) assessing the existing tourism scenario in the State;

(ii) reviewing the status of existing development/investment plans;

(iii) evaluating the existing potential tourist destinations;

(iv) developing sustainable tourism in a time period of 20 years;

(v) giving plans with short term and long term targets;

(vi) indicating the likely investment on infrasructure development under different heads; and

(vii) preparing an action-plan for implementing of identified potential schemes/projects, and for development of infrastructure,

The 20 Year Perspective Plans prepared for the States have given State-wise details and the action Plan for implementation of identified potential development schemes/projects.

(c) Development and promotion of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/UT Administrations. However, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, extends financial assistance to the State Government/ UT Administrations for tourism-related projects which are identified and prioritized in consultation with them every year under schemes Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits, Product/Infrastructure & Destination Development including Rural Tourism and Large Revenue Generating Projects.

The details of projects sanctioned for development of tourism in Rajasthan during the current financial year are given in the Statement (See below).

(d) Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, promotes India as a whole including the State of Rajasthan through 'Incredible India' campaign and 20 India tourism offices in the country as well as 13 overseas offices. The 'Incredible India' campaign lays emphasis on the culture, heritage, and monuments of India, Eco-Tourism and Wild Life Destinations and so on.

(e) and (f) The details of projects sanctioned for development of Rural Tourism in Rajasthan are as under:—

(Rs. in lakh)

SIN	Name of Project	Amount sanctioned
	2003-04	
1.	Development of Samode village (Distt. Jaipur) (Hardware)	50.00
2.	Development of Neemrana village (Distt. Alwar) (Hardware) 2004-05	50.00
1.	Development of Samode village (Distt., Jaipur) under GOI-UNDP Endogenous Tourism Project Scheme (Software)	20.00
2.	Development of Neemrana village (Distt., Alwar) under GOI-UNDP Endogenous Tourism Project Scheme (Software)	20.00
3.	Development of Haldighati (Distt. Rajsamand) under GOI-UNDP Endgoenous Tourism Project Scheme (Software)	19.32

Statement

*Details **of projects** sanctioned for development^ tourism in Rajasthan*

(Rs. in lakh)

SIN	Name of the project	Amount sanctioned	Amount released
1.	Mounting of Sound and Light Show at Amber Fort, Jaipur	129.26	116.33
2.	Development of Hawa Mahal and Jantar Mantar at Jaipur under Destination Development Scheme	464.32	371.45
3.	Integrated Development of Mewar-Vagad Tourist Circuit	580.00	464.00
4.	Development of Brij Bhoomi Religious Tourist Circuit	477.07	381.65
5.	Integrated Development of Pushkar (District Ajmer) as a Tourist Destination	434.04	347.23
6.	Conservation, Restoration and Preservation of Gagron Fort, Jhalawar District in Rajasthan under Destination Development	281.71	225.36"
7.	International Hot Air Ballooning as an event in Rajasthan	15.00	1200
	TOTAL:	2381.40	1918.02

** Funds are being released.